Habitat Conservation Fund

An Opportunity for Fish and Wildlife

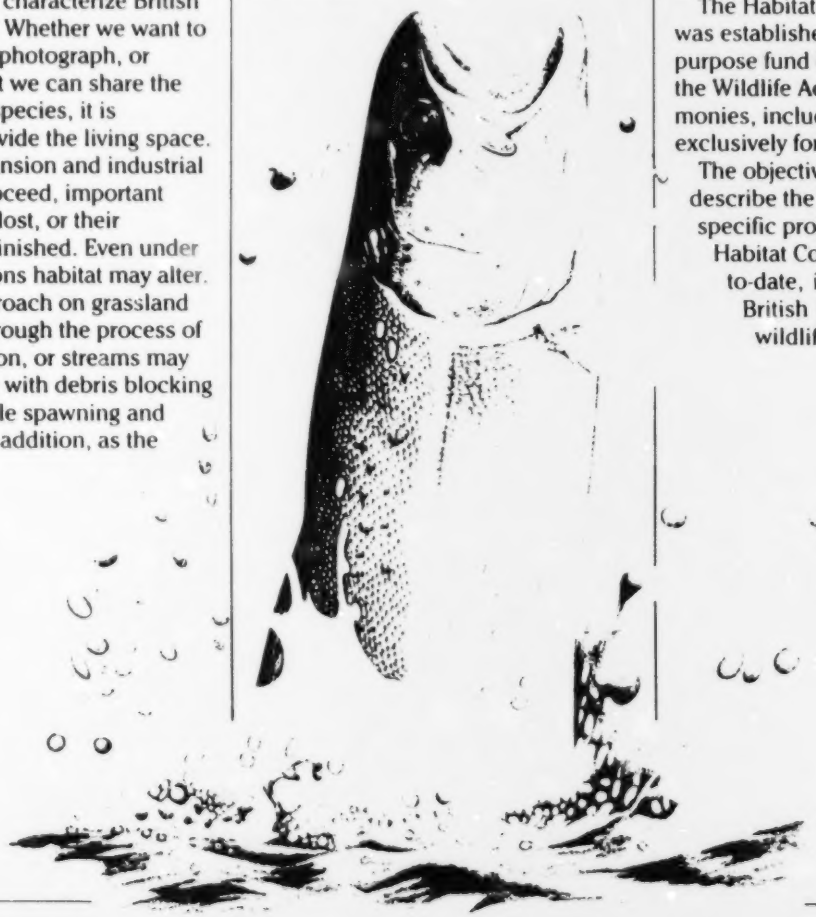
UPDATE 1

1981-1983

Protecting a Living Heritage

The conservation of habitat is essential to the survival of the unique and diverse fish and wildlife populations that characterize British Columbia today. Whether we want to view, hunt, fish, photograph, or simply know that we can share the land with other species, it is necessary to provide the living space.

As urban expansion and industrial development proceed, important habitats may be lost, or their productivity diminished. Even under 'natural' conditions habitat may alter. Forests may encroach on grassland winter ranges through the process of natural succession, or streams may become clogged with debris blocking access to valuable spawning and rearing areas. In addition, as the demands for quality hunting, angling and other outdoor recreational pursuits increase, the need to produce more fish and wildlife similarly increases. To meet the challenge to maintain abundant fish and wildlife populations, opportunities to protect and improve natural ecosystems must be exploited.



The purpose of the Habitat Conservation Fund is to realize some of these opportunities by funding the acquisition of crucial habitat areas and increasing the productivity of land through enhancement. These activities complement programs for fish and wildlife management developed by the Ministry of Environment.

The Habitat Conservation Fund was established in 1981 as a special purpose fund by an amendment to the Wildlife Act. This ensures that all monies, including interest, are used exclusively for Fund projects.

The objective of this report is to describe the financial status and specific projects undertaken by the Habitat Conservation Fund to-date, in the conservation of British Columbia's fish and wildlife resources.

The Habitat Conservation Fund consists of three main accounts which reflect three different functions: Acquisition, Enhancement and Compensation.

The Acquisition Account

The Fisheries and Wildlife Branches have no authority to manage habitat on private lands, even though they may contain important fish and wildlife habitat values. Securing these areas by outright purchase is an extremely costly and lengthy process, pursued only when management rights cannot be obtained through other means, such as leases, easements, or mutual agreement.

Eleven properties were recommended for acquisition between 1981 and 1983, and five purchases have been completed. A total of $974,267 has been spent on the acquisition of 700 hectares.

Money for projects to acquire habitat is provided to the Habitat Conservation Fund from the Crown Land Fund Account of General Revenue. The Crown Land Fund Account derives revenue from the development and sale of Crown Lands. Expenditures for conservation represent partial compensation for the impacts of development on fish and wildlife resources. Due to government restraint, the role of habitat acquisition originally outlined for the Fund has been temporarily modified. The intention to secure critical habitats through purchase of land remains unaltered, but the funds have not been automatically available for use on a fiscal year basis. Future allocations on a yearly basis will facilitate negotiations and provide the flexibility required to act on opportunities to secure important habitats.

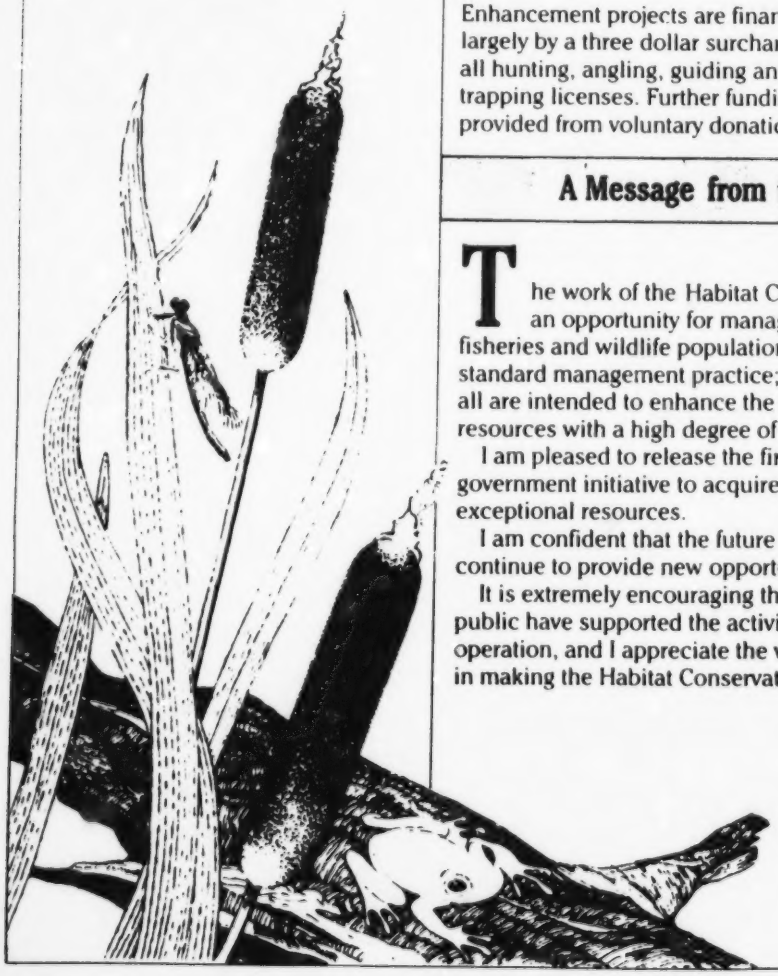
The Enhancement Account

Enhancement projects are financed largely by a three dollar surcharge on all hunting, angling, guiding and trapping licenses. Further funding is provided from voluntary donations and bequests or gifts from concerned individuals and corporations. Since 1981, 92 enhancement projects have been approved and initiated.

Restraint measures have not affected the revenue in this account. However, in 1983, the opportunity to hire seasonal employees to carry out enhancement activities was reduced. A greater emphasis is currently being placed on designing projects that can be contracted. In some cases this works very well, but for some types of projects, the expertise required is not yet readily available, or is best done by qualified Ministry personnel.

The Compensation Account

The purpose of this account is to accept donations from corporations and individuals who have agreed to compensate the Province of British Columbia for the impacts of development on fish and wildlife resources. This allows for these donations to be designated for acquisition and enhancement activities at or near the site of impacts.



A Message from the Minister of Environment

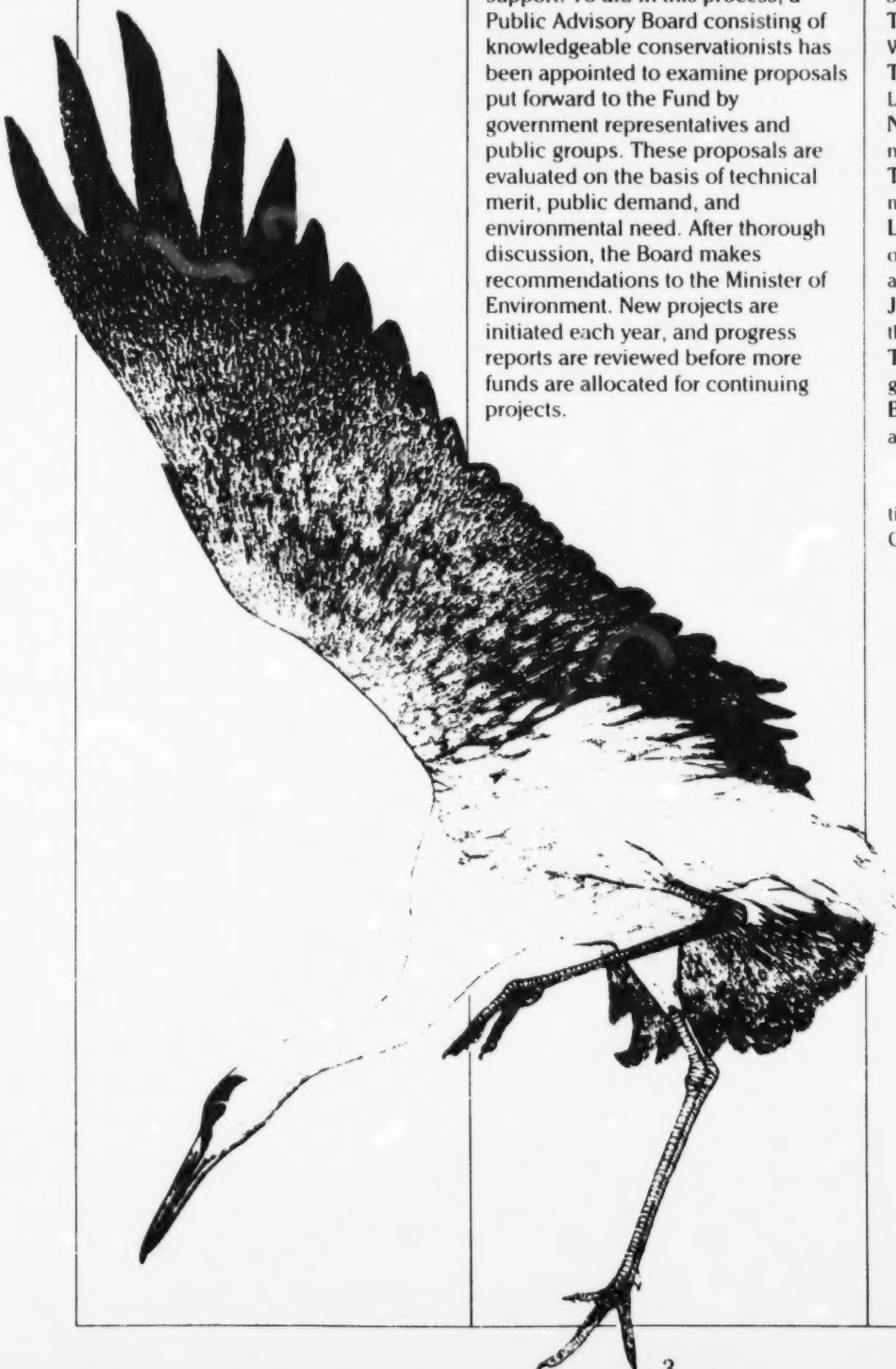
The work of the Habitat Conservation Fund since 1981 has provided an opportunity for managers in all parts of the province to improve fisheries and wildlife populations. Some of the techniques used are standard management practice; some are innovative and experimental, but all are intended to enhance the habitat of our valuable fish and wildlife resources with a high degree of efficiency and accountability.

I am pleased to release the first progress report on an important government initiative to acquire and enhance key habitats for these exceptional resources.

I am confident that the future of the Fund will be exciting and will continue to provide new opportunities for fish and wildlife enhancement.

It is extremely encouraging that sportsmen, naturalists and the general public have supported the activities of the fund in its first years of operation, and I appreciate the volunteer work of the Public Advisory Board in making the Habitat Conservation Fund a success.

F.C. Austin Pelton
Minister



Project Selection: Public Advisory Board Studies Choices

An important aspect in the operation of the fund is the selection of worthwhile projects for support. To aid in this process, a Public Advisory Board consisting of knowledgeable conservationists has been appointed to examine proposals put forward to the Fund by government representatives and public groups. These proposals are evaluated on the basis of technical merit, public demand, and environmental need. After thorough discussion, the Board makes recommendations to the Minister of Environment. New projects are initiated each year, and progress reports are reviewed before more funds are allocated for continuing projects.

Under the chairmanship of Dr. Ian McTaggart-Cowan, an internationally known wildlife biologist, the 10-member Board has met nine times in various parts of the province during the first three years of the Fund's existence.

Other members of the Board include:

Dr. Bert Brink, retired professor of Plant Science at University of British Columbia.

Terry O'Brien of the British Columbia Wildlife Federation.

Tom Christy, guide outfitter from Lillooet.

Nancy Anderson, a British Columbia naturalist.

Tony Sevcik, a photographer and member of fish and wildlife associations.

Lloyd Brooks, former deputy minister of the provincial Ministry of Recreation and Conservation.

Judge Leo Gansner, a naturalist from the Kootenays.

Tommy Walker, an author and former guide in the Spatsizi.

Barbara Nield, a librarian with long associations with conservation projects.

The Board members volunteer their time, energy and expertise to the Habitat Conservation Fund.

Enhancement Techniques: Working with the Land

The enhancement or restoration of habitat is directed at increasing the productive capacity of an ecosystem, thereby increasing the abundance or diversity of native species. Within each region of the province, habitats for fish and wildlife are examined to determine where populations might benefit from increased food supplies, nesting or spawning areas, reduced competition from undesirable species, or improvements in water quality.

Once those are identified, other ecological effects must be considered, since changes that benefit one aspect of an ecosystem are related to all other aspects. Social and economic factors are also reviewed to ensure that the results of enhancement activities are coordinated with other possible land uses and public demand.

Some enhancement projects are one-time tasks handled in a single season. Others may require work over a number of years with the application of a combination of techniques to produce the desired results. Follow-up monitoring of habitat response to treatment is essential to gauge effectiveness and suggest methods for future projects.

Described below are some of the techniques used to induce high productivity from a natural system:

Fisheries

Improvement of spawning habitat:

Where natural spawning gravels have become smothered with silt or displaced, suitable spawning conditions may be restored by addition of clean gravel of optimum size. New gravel is often contained within cribbing to form stable spawning platforms, or by cleaning existing gravels by raking, high pressure water jets or suction.

Artificial spawning channels:

New channels may be constructed adjacent to existing streams and provided with suitable gravels and controlled flow to provide optimum quality and quantity of spawning habitat. Maximum production of fry may be realized from such facilities.

Improvement of rearing habitat:

A variety of techniques may be used to improve or restore rearing habitat, thereby increasing the capacity of a stream to support fish. Pools and riffles may be created, and the complexity and quantity of hiding and resting spaces may be increased by addition of boulders or logs.

Stream clearance:

Where upstream fish passage to potential spawning and rearing habitat has become blocked by log jams, beaver dams and minor landslides, passage may be restored by selective removal of such barriers. Improperly installed culverts may be modified or replaced to allow passage. Access to previously inaccessible habitat above waterfalls may be provided in some cases by careful blasting.

Fish ladders and fishways:

Where barriers to available habitat cannot be removed, fish ladders over such obstructions may be constructed. These may be small, simple structures over minor waterfalls or low level weirs, or large structures to provide passage over major dams or waterfalls. Fish ladders typically consist of a series of steps or baffled compartments which provide rest areas and reduced water velocities.

Fishways may also be designed to allow passage of more agile sportfish while acting as a barrier to undesirable coarse fish. These are usually placed to prevent access by coarse fish to spawning and rearing tributaries, or to prevent reinvasion of rehabilitated lakes from infested outlet tributaries.

Chemical rehabilitation of lakes:

In lakes where undesirable fish species have proliferated and reduced sportfish production by excess competition and predation, a carefully planned and monitored application of pesticide specifically toxic to fish may be used. Once the undesirable species are reduced or eradicated, the lake is allowed to recover before restocking with sportfish. Such treatments are conducted in strict accordance with both Federal and Provincial pesticide control regulations and review procedures.

Lake aeration:

Some lakes may undergo periodic shortages of oxygen due to location, depth, size or productivity and fish kills may result. In some cases this may be remedied by artificial aeration whereby oxygenated air is pumped into the lake's depths or, alternatively, deep waters are pumped to the surface, oxygenated by exposure to air, then recirculated. With only periodic operation of relatively small compressors or pumps, whole lakes are brought into production with year round fish survival.

Wildlife

Prescribed burning:

Prescribed burning is used to increase the quantity and quality of vegetation on shrub or grassland ranges for a variety of big game and non-game species. Fire reconditions those ranges by removing old, unproductive growth and releasing nutrients into the soil. The major effect however, is to interrupt the natural succession of vegetation, and induce the conversion of old growth to lush new growth.

Application of prescribed fire involves comprehensive planning in conjunction with the Ministry of Forests, to determine the type of burn required to bring about desired effects. Construction of fire guards, and detailed monitoring of weather conditions may be required before application of fuel and ignition by helicopter or hand-held drip torch. In some cases burning is followed by seeding with nutritious grass species. The effects of fire treatments are monitored by measuring response of vegetation.

Mechanical treatments:

Stands of willow, aspen, or other food species for big game become unusable as they mature. These woody species are slashed or mechanically knocked down to encourage the growth of succulent new foliage at or near ground level. Other forested areas may be cleared and replanted with cuttings of preferred food species. These are usually treated with rooting hormone to improve success.

Thinning, or selective logging, is used to reduce dense overhead cover. With increased light penetration, shrubs, forbes and grasses flourish to provide a high quality, nutritious food source.

Water level control:

Essential to improving productivity of wetland and marsh habitat is the capacity to regulate water levels. Areas may be drained to provide pasture for Canada geese and upland birds, or flooded to provide shallow waterbodies for waterfowl and shorebirds. This is accomplished by creating dykes and dams, and equipping the system with a pump.

Once water levels are controlled, further developments may include construction of islands for nesting areas, seeding pastures with grass, and propagation of desirable aquatic vegetation.

Transplants:

Wildlife populations can be enhanced by moving animals to new habitats, historic ranges and to areas prepared by enhancement activities. Such relocations are a means of extending range, expanding populations, reducing competition, and providing new genetic stock to existing populations.

Public use:

Often enhancement activities take place near cities or towns, and present a prime opportunity for educational and recreational viewing of wildlife. To promote this use, trails, observation towers and interpretive information may be established. Those facilities are designed to encourage maximum use with minimum disturbance to wildlife.

Acquisition Projects

The properties purchased through the Habitat Conservation Fund are:

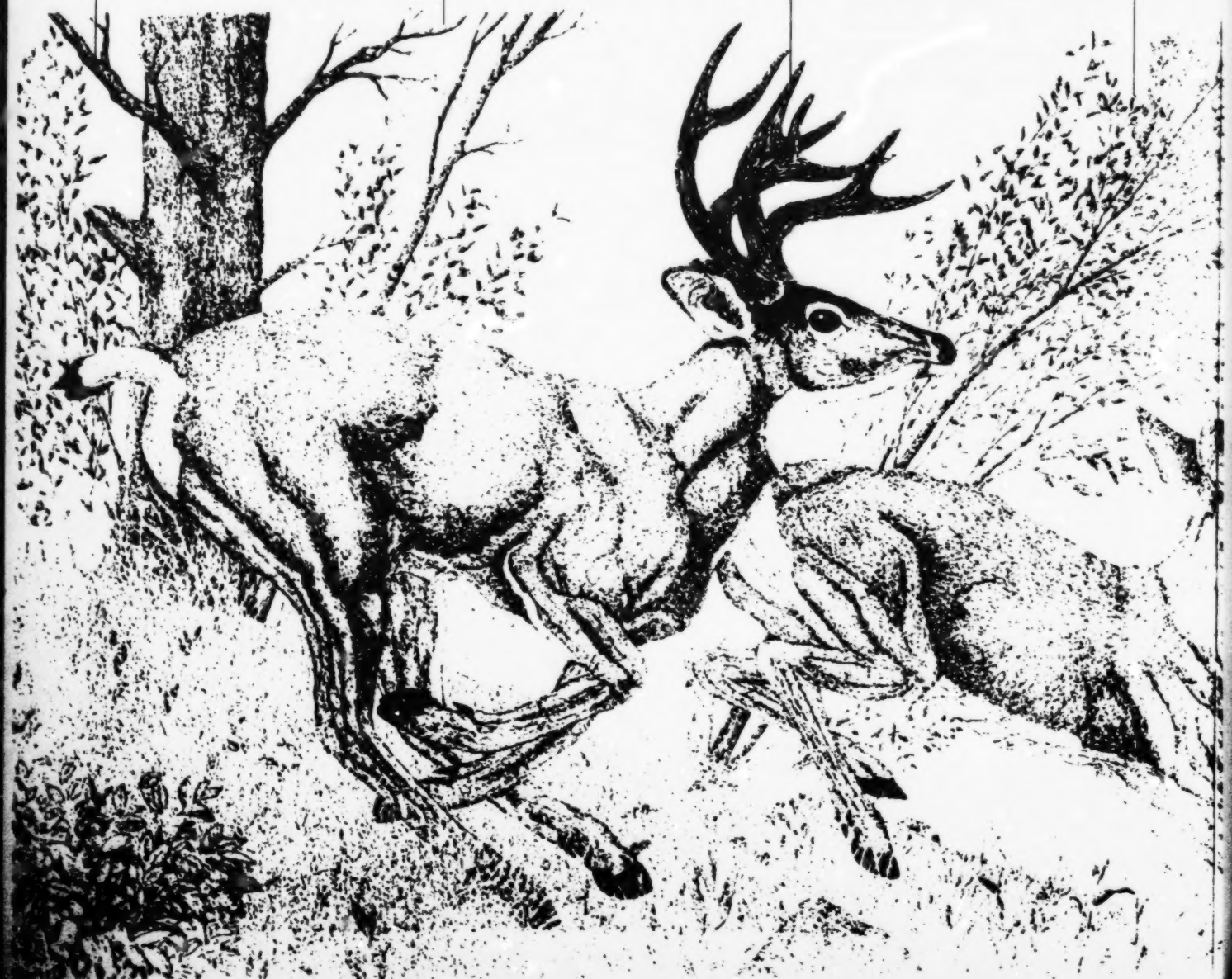
Antler's Saddle - 246 hectares bought in 1981 to secure winter range for mule deer near Summerland. Radio-tracking surveys have shown deer travel as far as 35 kilometres to congregate in this winter range. Selective logging and prescribed fire will provide timber for shelter and shrubs for deer browse.

Stellako River - 87 hectares on the south bank of the Stellako River purchased in 1981. The property was combined with other Crown land and sites owned by the Nature Trust of British Columbia to protect a valuable watercourse and recreational area. The Stellako is well known by anglers for its large rainbow trout and also supports sizeable chinook and sockeye salmon runs. The surrounding uplands are winter range for ungulates, particularly moose.

Skull Mountain - 259 hectares north of Kamloops were purchased in 1981 to protect an important key winter and spring range for a large population of mule deer.

Redfish Creek - To complement a purchase of 3 hectares by the Nature Trust of British Columbia, 0.42 hectares were acquired in 1982 to facilitate the enhancement of habitat for kokanee. The project involves construction of a spawning channel which is expected to produce 40,000 catchable kokanee a year, restoring a recreation fishery which was closed due to diminishing kokanee production in the West Arm of Kootenay Lake.

Hanceville Ranch - 109 hectares were purchased to secure a valuable water source for hatchery purposes.



Enhancement Projects

REGION 1 - Vancouver Island

1. Cowichan River Brown Trout Funding: $40,886, 1 yr.	Debris jams and other barriers to fish migration were removed from three tributaries to allow access to productive spawning and rearing habitat.	Complete
2. Langford Lake Aeration Funding: $32,483, 1 yr.	The installation of an aeration mechanism has improved water quality and will ensure winter survival of the rainbow trout population.	Complete
3. Comox Carp Control Funding: $25,338, 1 yr.	To prevent potential destruction of salmonid habitat, the extent of carp infestation into the natural watershed was monitored. Steps were taken to eradicate populations where required.	Complete
4. Salmon River Elk Range Funding: $70,357, 2 yr.	Roosevelt elk winter range was restored by thinning deciduous overstory, chemical elimination of alder, seeding grass, fertilization, and propagation of preferred food species.	Complete
5. San Juan Elk Transplant Funding: $2,737, 1 yr.	Roosevelt elk were captured, transported and released to repopulate an historic range.	Complete

REGION 2 - Lower Mainland

6. Weaver Lake Spawning Funding: $44,057, 2 yr.	New gravel was placed in the outlet forebay to improve rainbow trout spawning success. A concrete fishway, constructed at the outlet, allows juvenile fry access over a small dam back into the lake.	Complete
7. Hicks Lake Spawning Funding: $33,905, 2 yr.	Spawning habitat for rainbow trout was increased in the outlet creek by construction of spawning pads and stabilization of stream banks. A small fishway was monitored to determine success and extent of use.	Complete
8. Frosst Creek Clearance Funding: $9,894, 1 yr.	Equipment was purchased and preliminary preparations were made to commence stream clearance on spawning tributaries. Project completion has been delayed to 1984 due to restraint.	Delayed
9. Addington Point Marsh Funding: $11,654, 1 yr.	Biophysical data was collected to aid in the development of a management plan for the marsh. Also, repairs were made to existing water control systems and trails and viewing areas for the public have been improved.	Complete

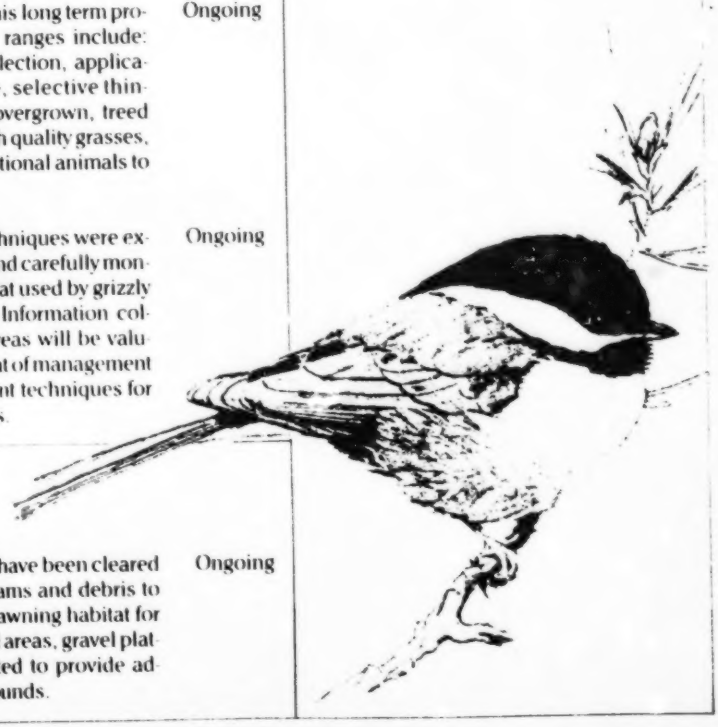
10. Serpentine Marsh Funding: $94,583, 2 yr.	Enhancing wetland productivity involved increasing water level control capabilities, maintaining short grass feeding pastures for Canada geese, construction of shallow water bodies and cultivation of marsh vegetation for waterfowl and shorebirds. Controlled public use is encouraged with establishment of trails, interpretive signs, viewing towers and day use facilities.	Complete
11. Forslund - Watson Forest Funding: $13,396, 1 yr	A management plan and implementation schedule were completed. With largely volunteer labour, vegetation was treated to stimulate growth of food plants for deer, provide nesting and escape areas for small mammals and birds, and to create snags for cavity nesting species.	Complete

REGION 3 - Thompson-Nicola

12. Kamloops Lakes Aeration Funding: $153,503, 3 yr.	Aeration mechanisms have been installed and are operational in eight accessible and productive lakes throughout the region.	Ongoing
13. Kane Lake Funding: $9,161, 1 yr.	A preliminary survey for chemical rehabilitation has taken place. Progress was halted due to coarse fish reinfestation of an adjacent lake, and unfavorable water conditions. Chemicals purchased were used elsewhere. Remaining money was returned to the Fund.	Delayed
14. Kamloops Potholes Nesting Funding: $627, 1 yr.	Materials were provided to volunteers for the construction of nesting boxes to increase populations of cavity nesting bird species.	Complete
15. Thompson Prescribed Fires Funding: $25,850, 3 yr.	Information required to plan burns was collected for sites in the Kamloops area. Equipment was purchased and several controlled burns were carried out to improve winter food supplies and to encourage greater distribution of bighorn sheep. Other burns are planned to rejuvenate spring range for mule deer.	Ongoing
16. Roundtop Refuge Funding: $8,275, 3 yr.	Various techniques were applied to rehabilitate this floodplain habitat to increase diversity and numbers of wildlife. Old pasture land was disced, fertilized and seeded; prescribed fire was applied to a meadow to prevent encroachment of cottonwood; fences were repaired and nesting boxes placed.	Complete
17. Chase Bighorn Sheep Funding: $1,284, 1 yr.	Encroaching immature conifers were selectively removed from key sites to reestablish winter range grasslands for California bighorn sheep.	Complete

REGION 4 - Kootenay

18. Redfish Creek Channel Funding: $166,999, 3 yr.	To restore productivity of the famous West Arm Kootenay Lake kokanee, a small spawning channel was excavated and filled with sorted, clean gravel. Spawning success has been well documented, with a survival rate calculated at 10 times that of the old stream.	Complete
19. Whiteswan Lake Channel Funding: $37,701, 3 yr.	The extension and renovation of an existing artificial spawning channel will accommodate enough rainbow trout spawners to eliminate the need for current stocking programmes.	Ongoing
20. Meadow Creek Channel Funding: $79,697, 1 yr.	Work has begun to restore British Columbia's first kokanee spawning channel to historic productivity. Renovations include complete gravel replacement in the 3.4 km channel, construction of improved diversion structures, counting fences and access bridges.	Ongoing
21. Columbia Marsh Funding: $13,465, 1 yr.	This project contributed to the development of a strategic plan for future protection and enhancement of this highly productive floodplain habitat.	Complete
22. Duncan-Lardeau Flats Funding: $19,546, 2 yr.	The management plan for this river bottom habitat has included fencing, selective logging and removal of decadent shrub growth to protect and enhance deer and elk winter range; placement of nesting boxes for wood ducks and platforms for geese, and collection of vegetation and bird census data.	Complete
23. East Kootenay Bighorn Sheep Funding: $124,728, 3 yr.	Completed phases of this long term project to improve winter ranges include: planning and data collection, application of prescribed fire, selective thinning and slashing of overgrown, treed areas, seeding with high quality grasses, and transplants of additional animals to extend use of range.	Ongoing
24. Flathead River Grizzly Funding: $9,111, 1 yr.	A variety of logging techniques were experimentally applied and carefully monitored in zones of habitat used by grizzly bear, elk and moose. Information collected on these test areas will be valuable in the development of management plans and enhancement techniques for these complex habitats.	Ongoing



REGION 5 - Cariboo-Chilcotin

25. Cariboo Stream Clearance Funding: $125,990, 3 yr.	Over thirty tributaries have been cleared of log jams, beaver dams and debris to improve access to spawning habitat for sportsfish. In selected areas, gravel platforms were constructed to provide additional spawning grounds.	Ongoing

26. Buckskin Lake Aeration Funding: $15,595, 1 yr.	A diesel aeration mechanism is installed and operational. The lake is due for restocking in the spring of 1984.	Ongoing
27. Lac La Hache Kokanee Funding: $9,562, 1 yr.	Shoreline spawning habitat improvements involved removal of encroaching aquatic vegetation, suction cleaning accumulated sand and silt from spawning gravel and placement of additional gravels to increase usable area.	Ongoing
28. Chilanko Marsh Funding: $5,185, 1 yr.	A first step in management of this area was the renovation of caretaker facilities at the marsh.	Complete
29. Junction Bighorn Funding: $128,576, 3 yr.	An intensive management regime is required to maintain this unique California bighorn herd at its prime level. Activities to date have included provision of public information, construction of fences and development of a water source to aid in distribution of bighorn sheep and cattle, selective thinning to reduce conifer encroachment on rangeland and use of small prescribed burns to improve forage quality.	Ongoing
30. Cariboo Moose Funding: $50,055, 1 yr.	To offset a decline in productive moose habitat, enhancement work has begun in three major areas within the Cariboo. To improve availability of browse, overmature willow and aspen stands have been slashed and burned. Other sites are being prepared for the application of controlled burns. A major mapping programme has provided an overview of moose winter habitat suitable for enhancement.	Ongoing

REGION 6 - Skeena

31. Skeena Lakes Funding: $38,747, 1 yr.	Tributaries to four lakes were selected for enhancement to increase spawning potential. Debris and beaver dams were removed, and in several sites, artificial spawning pads were constructed.	Complete
32. Division Lake Inlet Funding: $ 4,425, 1 yr.	A small inlet tributary was converted to spawning habitat with the construction of a series of gravel spawning pads. A barrier was designed to prevent coarse fish from entering the channel while allowing passage to the more agile rainbow trout.	Ongoing
33. Seymour Lake Rehabilitation Funding: $112, 1 yr.	A preliminary study revealed that this lake was not suitable for rehabilitation. Unspent money was returned to the Fund for reallocation.	Complete
34. Delkatla Marsh Funding: $48,982, 2 yr.	To reduce detrimental effects of domestic stock on waterfowl pastures, 6000 m of fencing was constructed to surround	Complete

	critical wetland areas. Trails and observation towers were established to promote public use with a minimum of disturbance to wildlife.	
35. Skeena Moose Range Funding: $26,733, 2 yr.	Two sites were selected for treatment to improve quality of food available to overwintering moose. An attempt to apply prescribed fire was curtailed due to unfavourable weather conditions. Instead, willow stands were mechanically knocked down to promote succulent new growth. In addition, willow cuttings were rooted and planted in a previously cleared area.	Ongoing

REGION 7 - Omineca-Peace

36. Hart Lake Funding: $37,374, 1 yr.	This lake was successfully treated to eliminate undesirable coarse fish and re-establish a productive sports fishery. Restocking took place in 1982.	Complete
37. Grove Burn Moose Funding: $22,984, 2 yr.	To maximize public viewing opportunities, an area adjacent to an observation tower was cleared to improve winter food supplies for moose. Interpretive signs and trails have been provided.	Complete
38. Kinuseo Creek Moose Funding: $13,416, 2 yr.	Several sites in this watershed were selected and vegetation data was collected and mapped. Attempts were made to ignite the burn, but weather conditions were unfavourable. Remaining money allocated to this project were returned to the Fund.	Complete
39. Northern Elk Range Funding: $164,659, 3 yr.	The goal of this long term project is to provide range for the expansion of the northern elk population. The primary technique has been controlled burning to convert shrub and tree areas to grassland. Close monitoring of animal use and analysis of plant response has been essential to its success. In addition, some areas have been seeded with domestic grasses, and mineral licks distributed to encourage use of new areas.	Ongoing
40. Dawson Creek Range Funding: $34,004, 1 yr.	Areas of potentially high quality habitat for elk, moose, mule deer and bighorn sheep were identified for treatment with prescribed fire. Large scale burns are scheduled to continue over the next five years.	Ongoing
41. Bullmoose Mt. Goats Funding: $32,919, 1 yr.	Ten mountain goats were trapped and transported to re-establish a population on Bullmoose Mountain. All goats were equipped with radio collars and eartags to facilitate monitoring. Completion of this project will involve relocation of an additional 10 goats.	Ongoing

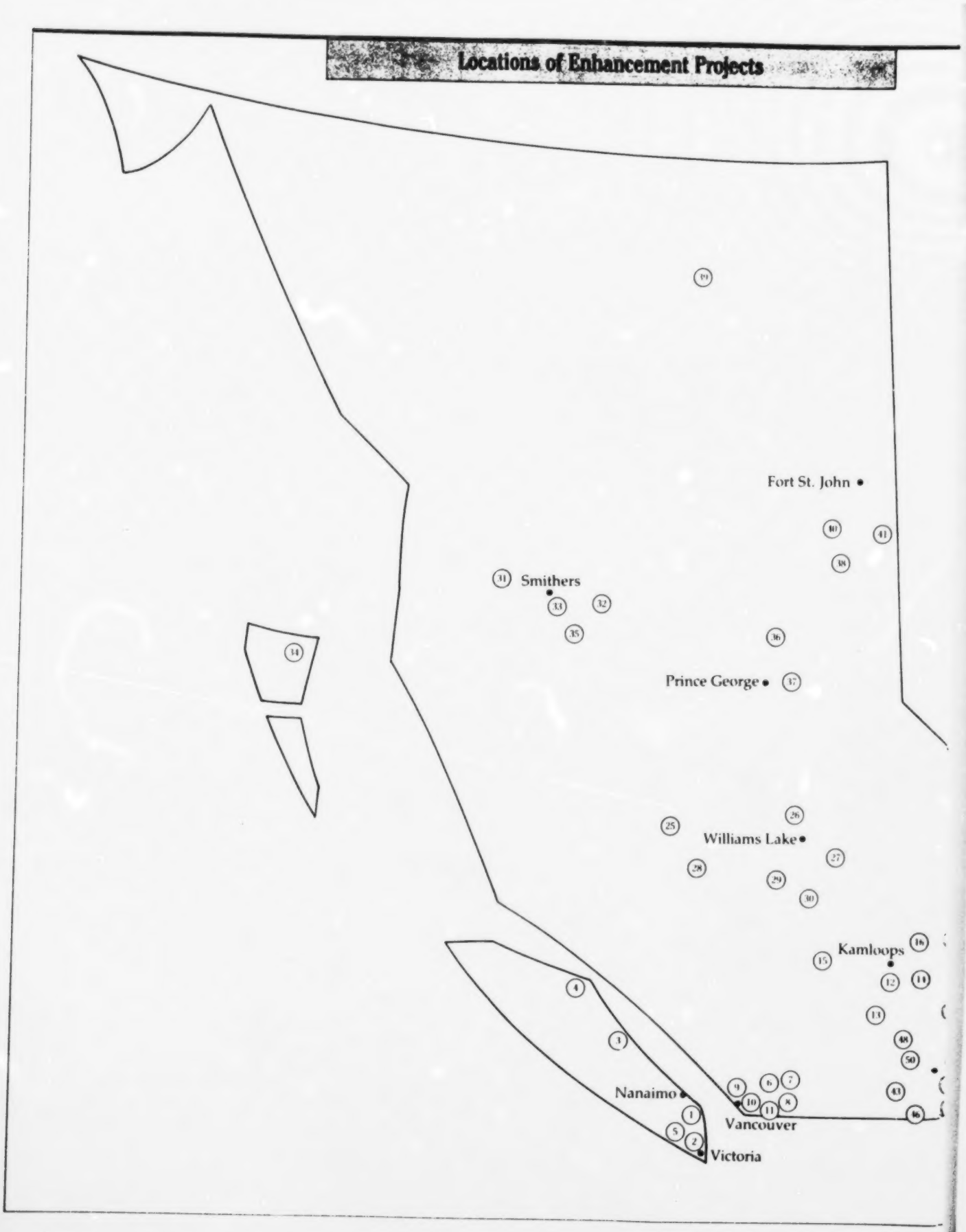
REGION 8 - Okanagan

42. Beaver Lake Funding: $14,714, 1 yr	The feasibility of non-chemical control of coarse fish (sculpin) populations was examined and deemed impractical.	Complete
43. Chain Lake Funding: $8,154, 1 yr.	Chemical removal of finescale sucker was the first step in restoring the rainbow trout population to previous levels.	Complete
44. Okanagan Lake Funding: $4,553, 1 yr	Inventory of Okanagan Lake shoreline has provided selective criteria for designating future enhancement sites for kokanee spawning habitat.	Complete
45. Osoyoos Bass Funding: $13,467, 1 yr.	Twenty-five reefs constructed from rubber tires, rey bars and cement, were placed at sites on Osoyoos Lake to provide cover and rearing area for large mouth bass and black crappie.	Complete
46. Ashnola Range Funding: $136,993, 3 yr.	Prescribed fire is the major technique used to recondition these unique grasslands for California bighorn sheep and mule deer. A comprehensive plan for continuous, rotational burning has been completed for the entire watershed, and a number of successful burns have taken place. Watering devices and mineral licks were placed on the lambing grounds to improve survival.	Ongoing
47. Grand Forks Range Funding: $11,791, 1 yr.	A number of techniques were used to benefit a variety of wildlife. Deer winter range was improved by shrub propagation and thinning dense growth; and snag creation, brush piling and installation of a water guzzler provided habitat for game birds, waterfowl, cavity nesting birds and small mammals.	Complete
48. Antler's Saddle Funding: $4,489, 1 yr.	To ensure availability of nutritious food for wintering deer, an overly dense coniferous forest was thinned to reduce canopy closure. Seed of a preferred food species was collected for future enhancement work.	Complete
49. Okanagan Owls Funding: $3,891, 1 yr.	Sixteen artificial burrows have been placed in historic range to accommodate a transplanted family of burrowing owls. Re-introductions will continue.	Ongoing
50. Summerland Deer Funding: $8,260, 1 yr.	Seed collected from *Ceanothus*, a food species for deer, was prepared and seeded in several test areas under carefully monitored conditions. Data collected from these areas will provide criteria for successful propagation on a large scale.	Complete

51. Granby Bighorn Sheep Funding: $3,434, 1 yr.	Thirty-two California bighorn ewes with lambs and one ram were trapped at Vaseux Lake, examined and tagged. Twenty were selected for transplanting and several were radio collared. The released animals have been under constant surveillance to monitor progress.	Ongoing

HEADQUARTERS - Victoria

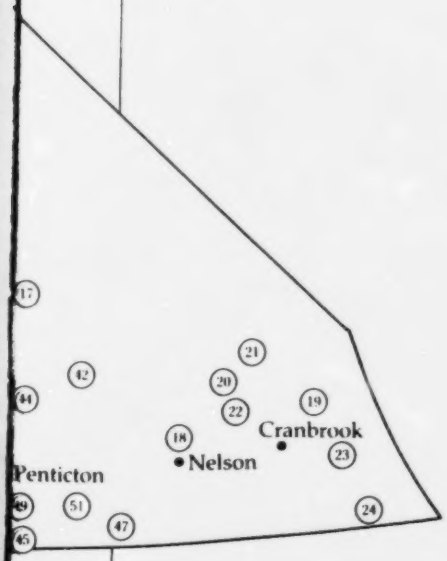
Public Relations Funding: $9,438, 3 yr.	Projects have included publication of a brochure introducing the Fund, several displays for use at public functions and production reports to the public on the Fund's activities.	Ongoing
Signs Funding: $2,871, 3 yr.	Construction and placement of information signs on properties acquired through the Habitat Conservation Fund.	Ongoing
Public Advisory Board Funding: $26,690, 3 yr.	Expenses incurred by the ten members of the Public Advisory Board while participating in project and policy review meetings to advise the Minister of Environment.	Ongoing
Fund Administration Funding: $23,013, 1 yr.	Administrative assistance to facilitate Habitat Conservation Fund project and policy development.	Ongoing
Grundle Art Promotion Funding: $132,192, 2 yr.	The purchase, printing and marketing of a series of limited edition wildlife reproductions to increase public awareness and stimulate donations to the Fund.	Ongoing


Locations of Enhancement Projects
Fort St. John
Smithers
Prince George
Williams Lake
Kamloops
Nanaimo
Vancouver
Victoria

Financial Report

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES (Fiscal Year Ending March 31)

	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	Totals
The Acquisition Account				
Opening balance	—	—	—	
Receipts:				
Crown Land Fund Transfer	770,409	203,859	—	974,268
Disbursements:				
Acquisition Projects	770,409	203,859	—	974,268
Closing balance	—	—	—	—
The Enhancement Account				
Opening balance	—	141,693	96,225	
Receipts:				
Startup advance	711,799	—		711,799
Licence surcharges	141,593	1,386,623	1,420,428	2,948,644
Donations, bequests	100	808	2,154	3,062
Grundle Art Project	—	—	18,297	18,297
Interest	—	9,398	60,972	70,370
	853,492	1,396,829	1,501,851	3,752,172
Disbursements:				
Enhancement projects	711,799	730,498	750,209	2,192,506
Repayment of advance	—	711,799	—	711,799
	711,799	1,442,297	750,209	2,904,305
Closing balance	141,693	96,225	847,867	847,867
The Compensation Account				
Opening balance	—	—	—	
Receipts:				
Highland Valley	—	—	250,000	250,000
Interest	—	—	23,584	23,584
	—	—	273,584	273,584
Closing balance	—	—	273,584	273,584



Donations and Fund Raising

The Habitat Conservation Fund accepts donations and bequests. Both are deposited directly to the Fund, and are tax deductible.

In November 1983, limited edition reproductions of wildlife art by British Columbia artist Jack Grundle, were first offered for sale to promote the Habitat Conservation Fund. A full colour brochure illustrating the art work is available for more information.

For more information contact:

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